

Amendments To the Abstract:

In the English translation document, please add the section heading and paragraph at page 16 line 1, as follows:

--ABSTRACT

Packet-based networks of the next generation work on the principle of separation of connection and data channel control. In the above networks, as opposed to current TDM networks, discrete network elements are used for connection control and data channel control, whereby the network element for data channel control is defined as Media Gateway and the network element for connection control is defined as Media Gateway Controller. Problems arise as a result of the physical and positional separation of the connection and data channel control, in particular the problem of performance loss as a result of greatly increased incoming signaling messages and greater distance-related signal delay times. According to the invention, said problems are solved whereby a part of the connection control is integrated in the Media Gateway, whilst the remaining part of the connection control, in particular that concerning the central control and monitoring tasks remains, as before, in the media gateway controller. --